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Platt v. Same, Seward v. Same, 17 Sup. Ct. Rep. 305. A State has the right to tax the property of an express company within the State upon the basis of the value of the whole capital of the company as laid down in the "Nichols Law," and although a decision that the statute did not conflict with the State constitution was given by the highest court of the State in a test case, involving no actual controversy, said decision will be accepted as conclusive by the Supreme Court of the United States. Four Justices dissented.

Parol Contract—Consideration of Adoption—Trusts—Will Cannot Defeat Contractual Rights.—*Heath v. Heath et al.*, 42 N. Y. Sup. 1087. A parol contract, made by decedent, to adopt the plaintiff and to leave to her at his decease his entire property, subject only to dower right of widow, is valid, placing a binding trust on the property, and cannot be defeated by a will contrary to its provisions.

Malicious Prosecutions—Termination of Criminal Proceedings—Failure to Prosecute.—*Hinds v. Parker*, 42 N. Y. Sup. 955. Where one committed to await the action of the grand jury is discharged on habeas corpus and institutes an action for malicious prosecution two days after release, no further steps being taken in the criminal proceedings, such release is not a termination of the criminal proceedings sufficient to support the action for malicious prosecution.

Corporations—Approval of Certificate Sunday Meetings.—*Agudath Hakehiloth*, 42 N. Y. Sup. 985. The certificate of incorporation of a membership corporation, arranging for annual meetings to be held on Sunday, was refused approval, as being against the public interest.

Great Lakes—Submerged Land—Title—Conveyance—Legislature.—*People v. Kirk et al.*, 45 N. E. Rep. 830. Dominion and title of lands beneath the waters of the Great Lakes are in the States within whose boundaries such lands are located—the States holding them in trust for the people, who have the right of navigation and fishing in the waters submerging them. And a State acting through its Legislature may convey such lands to private individuals provided it does not thereby impair the above common rights of the people in the lakes. Such an act, though unwise, is within the power of the legislature—redress must be had to the ballot, rather than to the courts.